

**To: Members of the House Oversight Standing Committee
Michigan House of Representatives**

**From: Rachelle McKinney, Attorney¹
MHA Unemployment Compensation Program
Michigan Health & Hospital Association**

Date: June 8, 2017

Re: MHA Comments Regarding the Unemployment Work Group

Thank Chairman Graves and Committee Members.

My name is Rachelle McKinney and I am employed by the Michigan Health & Hospital Association. I'm an attorney with MHA's Unemployment Compensation Program. We represent over 300 healthcare employers throughout Michigan in all matters involving unemployment compensation.

It was a privilege for me to serve on the Unemployment Compensation Work Group that was convened by Representative Graves and Representative Hertel. The work group members worked diligently and collectively to produce the recommendations within the report.

While MHA supports the Work Group's overall report, there is one specific topic I would like to comment on.

Since the fall of 2014, Michigan has encountered a significant problem with fraudulent unemployment claims being filed by imposters. These imposter claims are rampant in Michigan, are a menace to the employer community, and adversely impact innocent workers throughout the state. A couple parts of this report specifically address the problem of imposter claims. The report offers protections to both employers and the affected employees. We hope that the protections for employers and the affected employees that are included in the report are promptly considered by the legislature and enacted quickly.

Thank you for allowing me to provide my comments and I am willing to answer any questions you may have or provide clarification.

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